



## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY  
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>B. 1218 PCT</b>	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. <b>PCT/FR2004/000882</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>09.04.2004</b>	Priority date (day/month/year) <b>16.04.2003</b>
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC		
Applicant <b>SNPE MATERIAUX ENERGETIQUES</b>		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.	
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.	
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:	
a. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows:	
<input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).	
<input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.	
b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).	
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/FR2004/000882

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language \_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))  
☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)  
☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished

☒ the description:

pages 1-16 as originally filed/furnished

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

☒ the claims:

nos. 1-20 as originally filed/furnished

nos.\* \_\_\_\_\_ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

nos.\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

nos.\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

☒ the drawings:

sheets 1/3-3/3 as originally filed/furnished

sheets\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

sheets\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_

☐ the claims, nos. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

☐ the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_

☐ the claims, nos. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. II      Priority

1. ☒ This report has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the failure to furnish within the prescribed time limit the requested:
  - ☒ copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 66.7(a)).
  - ☐ translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 66.7(b)).
2. ☐ This report has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rule 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this report, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.
3. Additional observations, if necessary:

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
<b>1. Statement</b>			
Novelty (N)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1, 11, 19	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	2-10, 12-18, 20	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-20	YES
	Claims		NO
<b>2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)</b>			
1. In the present report, reference is made to the following documents:			
D1: GB 1 252 984 A (USM CORPORATION) 10 November 1971 (1971-11-10)			
D2: GB 951 620 A (DOW CHEMICAL CO) 11 March 1964 (1964-03-11)			
2. INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1			
2.1 The present invention according to claim 1 is not clear within the meaning of PCT Article 6. The expression pyrotechnic micro-charge does not appear to have features clearly defining it. From the point of view of the reader, any small charge may be understood to be a micro-charge. The set of claims as filed cannot be accepted without delimitation sufficient to clarify the subject matter thereof.			
2.2 Detonating explosive charges using means for applying heat is a known method. D1 and D2 propose clear solutions in this respect. A heating process using means for passing electricity through a conductor is also known. The Examination Division, taking into account the above-mentioned lack of clarity, does not			

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement

find the difference between a method for detonating explosives using electric heating known from the prior art and the subject matter of the present claims. Therefore, the present application fails to meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(1), since the subject matter of claim 1 does not comply with the criterion of novelty as defined by PCT Article 33(2).

The same reasoning can be applied to the other independent claims 11 and 19.

## 3. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The claims do not appear to contain any features which, when combined with the features of the claims to which they refer, meet the requirements of novelty and inventive step of PCT Article 33(2) and (3), since they specify technical details within the normal practice of a person skilled in the art.

It is not currently possible to know which part of the application might be used as a basis for an acceptable new claim. However, if certain elements appear patentable to the applicant company, it is invited to justify this point of view, indicating in its reply any difference relative to the prior art and specifying the importance attributed thereto. Pursuant to the provisions of EPC Rule 29(1), it would also be advisable to file an independent claim in which these particular elements appear.